

Except when the lizards were startled, I found little difficulty in getting within shooting distance of even the speediest of them. This I ascribe to their bump of curiosity, developed apparently to a high degree. Thus, on another occasion, I recall capturing with a net a number of *Crotaphytus* while their attention was fixed upon the antics—a sort of war dance—performed by a companion. The material before me is represented largely by species of *Callisaurus*, *Crotaphytus*, *Uta*, *Sceloporus*, *Cnemidophorus*, etc.

The small bore shotgun or pistol, while a reliable weapon, has the disadvantage of causing more or less mutilation. In a hot and dry climate badly injured or dead specimens discolor and shrivel quickly, often before they can be brought to camp. Best suited for every purpose of study is material brought in alive. If they are not intended for osteological preparations I have obtained the most satisfactory results from specimens killed in formalin 4%. In this medium reptiles retain their natural proportion and color much better than if placed into alcohol at once. I make no incisions, but instead use a small veterinary syringe with a set of hypodermic needles. This leaves no outward marks where injections have been made. An injection through the vent usually suffices for lizards. Snakes require additional injections below the ventral scales. Collapsed regions are easily restored by means of the syringe during the process of curing. After 3 to 4 hours specimens may be transferred to alcohol 70% or, if intended for color study at a future date, to formalin 2%.

GEO. P. ENGELHARDT,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

HABITS OF A YOUNG BOX TORTOISE.

The Box Tortoise (*Terrapene carolina*), is almost entirely terrestrial in its habits, although exceptions have been recorded recently by contributors to

COPEIA. As the young of this species are rarely discovered, the actions of one found by the writer have been watched with interest. This turtle was picked up on a sandy country road in June. It had a carapace length of 50 mm. and weighed $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. Portions of the keel were distinctly present. When placed in its box, it at once made for the water where it remains almost continually, coming out for an hour or two on bright, hot mornings, to sun itself on some moss. Its favorite diet consists of angle worms, which it devours with avidity, but unlike other Emydidae it rushes out of the water with its prey instead of feeding in the water with head submerged. In this habit it resembles the true land tortoises, toward which the Box Tortoises seem to be evolving. The aquatic life of young Box Tortoises may account for their being so infrequently observed.

H. L. BABCOCK,
Boston, Mass.

ANOTHER NEW JERSEY KING SNAKE.

This spring, about June 10th, upon rather a damp windy day, Mr. Outram Bangs and I motored from Rumson to Lakehurst, New Jersey. During a short halt made necessary by a punctured tire we strolled for some distance along a brook which divided a large open meadow. We had gone but a short way when we found a fine adult King Snake [*Lampropeltis getulus* (L.)] sunning on the south side of a large log. The snake is still alive at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge. Since Fowler does not record any specimen from just this locality, and as the species is very rare in New Jersey, it seems worth while to place this captive upon record.

T. BARBOUR,
Cambridge, Mass.